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TERATOLOGICAL NOTES.

BY J. A. NIEUWLAND.

TOXICODENDRON

The leaves of *Toxicodendron vulgare* Miller, also *Toxicodendron radicans* (Linn) Kuntze are ordinarily pinnately trifoliate. Leaves with five leaflets are, however, not uncommon. These are of two rather distinct types, and intermediate forms between ternate and quinate in all stages from the simple leaflets to deeply lobed cleft and divided are even more common.

The first kind of quinate leaf is that in which the two basal leaflets of the ternate have each apparently given rise by cleavage to another smaller one. The whole has in this case a more decidedly palmate appearance as the petiolules of the outer smaller leaflets come from the same point on the rachis as the larger ones from which they are supposed to have arisen by division. The other example shows two leaflets apparently cut off from the lateral basal lobes of the terminal leaflet. In this way a rather pinnate aspect results, as the two original basal leaflets are inserted at some distance below that of the other three.

On the supposition, if it can be maintained, that teratological forms may illustrate a reversion of form to an original ancestral common to several present-day types, it may be inferred that the real poison ivy plants show a close relationship to the typically pinnate leaved *Toxicodendron Vernix* (Linn) Kuntze or Poison Sumac, by postulating a common ancestor for both. The abnormal leaves of the poison ivies referred to above resemble somewhat the more simple ones of *T. Vernix* in appearance. Quinate leaves of *T. Vulgare* and *T. radicans* are quite common at Notre Dame. A considerable number of specimens with intermediate forms was collected at Grand Beach, Mich., in the Dune region of Northern Indiana and Southwestern Michigan during the season of 1917.

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